In conclusion, it is interesting to note how many large but obscure and problematical organic remains, all apparently of low types and generalised structures, and therefore difficult to classify, cluster about the base of the Cambrian, and appear to point to a primitive world beyond, of whose other inhabitants we know little else except indications of marine worms, of sponges, of a few Protozoa, and possibly of plants. Like the floating *débris* of the land noted by Columbus on his westward voyage, they raise our hope that we are one day to reach and annex to the empire of geological science a new region in which we may be able to see the beginnings of those great lines of life that have descended through the ages, and are alike mysterious in their origin, their development, the decay and disappearance of some of them, and the addition from time to time of new types to their number.

I may add for the benefit of searchers in this field two practical points: (1) Such organisms as most of those referred to in this paper are not attractive to the ordinary collector; because externally they shew little of their structure, which becomes manifest only after they have been cut and etched with dilute acid or prepared in transparent slices for study under the microscope. There can be little doubt that many of them are overlooked for this reason. (2) In Cambrian and Pre-Cambrian formations fossils are often abundant on certain surfaces or in certain thin layers, while intervening beds of great thickness are barren. Hence the importance when productive beds are found, of working them thoroughly when possible. In this the local collector who can revisit the same spot many times and spend days in working at it, has great advantages. Otherwise such productive spots can be adequately worked only by spending money in securing good collectors and giving them sufficient means for excavation.